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Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9128
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2868

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SA, WA, TZ
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: NEXT STEPS

1. SUMMARY: TANZANIAN CANVASS OF FRONT LINE STATES INDICATES AGREEMENT ON DESIRABILITY OF PROMPT MEETING OF CONTACT GROUP WITH SWAPO IN LUANDA. HOWEVER, SWAPO'S POSITION REMAINS LESS THAN CERTAIN. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING EMERGED FROM CONVERSTATIONS AT SOCIAL EVENTS NIGHT OF JULY 5 WITH TANZANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MKAPA AND PRINCIPAL SECRETARY FOREIGN OFFICE NYAKYI. LATTER HAS JUST RETURNED FROM TOUR OF FRONT LINE STATES UNDER NYERERE'S INSTRUCTIONS. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER MOON REPORTING MKAPA CONVERSATION IN MORE DETAIL TO UKUN FOR WESTERN FIVE.
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3. MKAPA TOLD MOON AND ME THAT: (A) HE WAS OPTIMISTIC. ALL FRONT LINE LEADERS HAD AGREED WITH TANZANIA THAT NEXT STEP SHOULD BE CONTACT GROUP MEETING WITH SWAPO IN LUANDA, (B) THEY WERE NOW AWAITING WORD FROM CONTACT GROUP ON ITS TIMING AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEETING WITH SWAPO, (C) MKAPA HIMSELF WAS DELAYING HIS SCHEDULED DEPARTURE FOR KHARTOUM THIS WEEKEND SO THAT HE COULD

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GO TO LUANDA IF MEETING MATERIALIZED, (D) TANZANIANS COULD NOT GUARANTEE SWAPO ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING OR COOPERATION AT IT BUT WOULD BE "EMBARRASSED" IF MEETING DID NOT TAKE PLACE OR WENT AWRY.

4. NYAKYI REPORTED THAT: (A) HE HAD TALKED TO ALL FRONT LINE LEADERS (NOT INCLUDING NIGERIANS) AND ALL WERE IN AGREEMENT THAT MEETING IN LUANDA SHOULD TAKE PLACE AND THAT FINAL SETTLEMENT NAMIBIA SHOULD BE ARRANGED AT IT, (B) NETO, TO WHOM HE HAD TALKED, WANTED SETTLEMENT, (C) NUJOMA HAD NOT BEEN IN LUANDA DURING NYAKYI VISIT BUT "SWAPO PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE THERE" HAD AGREED ON DESIRABILITY OF MEETING, AND (D) NYAKYI THOUGHT THAT "SALIM-DRAFTED" UNSC RESOLUTION ON WALVIS BAY WOULD BE ALL RIGHT, BUT WAS LESS CERTAIN OF SWAPO REACTION TO NO CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICAN TROOP DISPOSITIONS (ABOUT WHICH HE HAD NOT KNOWN DURING HIS TOUR). HE THOUGHT THIS MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE, AND IN ANY EVENT WESTERN FIVE SHOULD PRESS AHEAD WITH PROPOSAL FOR JULY 10-12 MEETING.

5. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION AS TO WHAT WE SHOULD DO IF NUJOMA SAID "NO" TO MEETING OR REFUSED TO AGREE DURING IT, NYAKYI SAID: "I DON'T THINK THAT WILL HAPPEN, BUT, IF IT DOES, LET US KNOW." WHEN I OFFERED THOUGHT THAT THOSE WHO FAVORED LIBERAL, IMAGINATIVE US POLICY ON AFRICA COULD USE AN ACHIEVEMENT ON NAMIBIA, NYAKYI, ECHOEING NYERERE, SAID: "SO COULD WE--AND BEFORE KHARTOUM."
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6. COMMENT: APPROVAL OF MEETING IN LUANDA BY FRONT LINE LEADERS SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED, AND TIMING NEXT WEEK APPEARS FAVORABLE. SWAPO REACTION--AND EVEN NUJOMA'S KNOWLEDGE OF SOUTH AFRICAN REFUSAL TO BUDGE ON TROOP LOCATIONS--REMAINS UNCERTAIN. CONTACT GROUP IN NEW YORK MAY WANT TO PROBE THIS WITH SWAPO REPRESENTATIVES THERE PRIOR TO MEETING. NONETHELESS, MY FEELING IS THAT CONTACT GROUP SHOULD GO AHEAD AND PRESS SWAPO FOR LUANDA MEETING NEXT WEEK. IF SNAGS OF ANY KIND DEVELOP, IT IS IMPORTANT TO LET TANZANIANS KNOW PROMPTLY, ALBEIT THEIR REACTION TO SUCH A SITUATION IS ALSO LESS THAN CERTAIN.
RESPONSE WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS BY PRESIDENT CARTER TO NYERERE'S LATEST LETTER WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO URGENCY OF NAMIBIA SOLUTION WOULD PROBABLY BE HELPFUL.
SPAIN

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